



# Join the Commuter Club!

The Commuter Club for County of Orange employees is easy, fun and saves you money! All you need to do is ride the bus, carpool, take the train, walk, bike, vanpool or use any alternate commute mode five days a month. Commuter Club Members receive:

- A **Commute Club Card** each year with a directory of participating local merchants who give special discounts to Commuter Club members. Updates to the directory are at [www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare).
- A **National Values Coupon Book** with over \$4,000 in savings from *nationally* known merchants, restaurants, and services.
- The **County Commuter Newsletter** and [www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare) for commuter information.
- A **Guaranteed Return Trip Voucher Form** that can be used for a taxi ride or use of a County vehicle if an emergency arises on a day that you rideshare.

Complete the following section and mail or FAX this form to the address below.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency / Depart.: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Typical Work Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ City Where You Live: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, I commit to rideshare at least 5 days per month and I agree to complete the transportation survey distributed to all employees each October.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the new or current rideshare mode:

☐ Carpool \*    ☐ Bus    ☐ Rail/Train    ☐ Walk    ☐ Bike    ☐ Vanpool

\* Name of Carpool Partner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated number of days per month that I do or will rideshare: \_\_\_\_\_

# Ridesharing 101

Are you tired of driving to work? Are you thinking about carpooling, vanpooling, walking, taking the bus, train or bike to work, but not sure where to start? Here are some tips to get you started:

## Want help finding a carpool partner?

When possible, people like to carpool with co-workers, neighbors, friends or family, however if you are having trouble finding someone, you can call 1-800-COMMUTE or log onto the County's Commuter Assistance Program web site at [www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare), where you can get a free RideGuide that contains a personalized list of others who live/work near you, have similar schedules and want to carpool.

## Interested in using the carpool lane?

Southern California leads the nation in carpool lanes, where there are more than 380 miles of them. Carpool lane users report average timesavings of 40 minutes a day, on average you'll save about one minute-per mile. To see if there is a carpool lane along your route to work, log onto [www.socalcommute.org](http://www.socalcommute.org) to see a map of existing lanes and those currently under construction.

## Concerned about being stranded without a car?

If you have an emergency on a day that you carpool, vanpool, ride the train or the bus, you can use a taxi or County Vehicle for the emergency transportation. This is the Guaranteed Return Trip program. Voucher forms and instructions are available at [www.oc.ca.gov/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/rideshare) or at the Commuter Information Display racks.

## Ever thought about riding in a vanpool to work?

A vanpool is a group of 8 to 15 people who commute together on a regular basis in a van – most will travel at least 20-30 one miles. One person leases the vehicle, and the passengers split the monthly operating costs. The County offers a vanpool startup subsidy for the first three months of a new vanpool. If you are interested, you must complete a "Club Vanpool" interest form available at our web site [www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare), at one of the County's Commuter Information Display racks, or by calling the Commuter Assistance Message Center Hotline at (714) 834-4068.

## Do you live close enough to work to walk or ride your bike to work?

Commuters who live within 10 miles of work can often bicycle or walk to work. Longer distance commuter can use pedal-power if they combine bicycling with public transit. Bike maps are available from OCTA's web site at [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net); pick one up at one of the County's Commuter Information Display racks, or by calling the Commuter Assistance Message Center Hotline at (714) 834-4068.

## Need information about the local bus services?

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is the major transit provider in Orange County. To get information on bus routes, log onto their web site at [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net), enter your origin and destination, arrival and leave times and they'll generate an itinerary that includes the closest bus stop, which bus to take and when and transfers. Get a copy of the Bus Book at one of the Commuter Information Display racks.

## Want to try taking the train to work?

Metrolink and Amtrak trains carry long-distance commuters from outlying communities to centers of employment such as Anaheim, Irvine and Santa Ana. The County has a subsidy program for employees who want to give Metrolink or Amtrak a try. The "Get Into Training" Program will provide a free two-day pass to any eligible employee. Try it for a few days, and if you are still interested, purchase a one-week pass, and we'll match that. If you keep on riding, buy a one-month pass and we'll match that. To apply, you must complete a "Get Into Training" application available at our web site [www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare](http://www.oc.ca.gov/hr/rideshare), or at one of the Commuter Information Display racks, or by calling the Commuter Assistance Message Center Hotline at (714) 834-4068.